

DEATH OF MME. MODJESKA

HAD LONG BEEN ILL AT HER HOME IN CALIFORNIA.

Husband, Count de Bozenta, Hopes: Czar Will Permit Body to Be Interred in Her Native Poland, From Which She Was Barred—Her Public Career.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 8.—Mme. Helena Modjeska, the actress, died at 10 A. M. to-day at her home in Bay City, Orange county, at the age of 65, after an illness of two months. For several days she had been unconscious and her death was expected almost hourly. Bright's disease complicated with heart trouble was the immediate cause of death.

Gathered around the bedside when she passed away were Count Bozenta, her husband; Ralph Modjeska, a son, and his wife; Dr. J. C. Boyd, the family physician.

The body will be embalmed and brought to Los Angeles, where it will remain in a vault until Count Bozenta can learn whether the Russian authorities will permit the removal to Cracow, Poland, the dead actress's early home. Because of his political writings Count Bozenta was exiled from Russia. Mme. Modjeska shared his liberal opinions, and at the time of the World's Fair in Chicago she read a paper on Russian rule in Poland which angered the Czar.

An order was issued barring her from all Russian possessions. Count Bozenta is hopeful that his objections will be made by the Russian Government to the burial of the body in old home in Poland.

Helena Modjeska, as she was known throughout her career on the American stage, was not only the greatest actress of Poland but was conspicuous in the history of its political movements. She came to this country not to act but to found a colony in which several of the most enlightened literary and artistic spirits of Poland hoped to find the opportunities for intellectual freedom denied them in their own country. Among these emigrants from the life of Warsaw was Henryk Sienkiewicz. Mme. Modjeska died on her estate not far from the spot on which this colony settled. The enterprise was not a success and she found herself compelled to return to her profession. She was already the wife of Count Charles de Bozenta Chapowski, who had accompanied her to this country and was one of the most ardent of the patriots of the American cause. Mme. Modjeska felt compelled to resume her profession Sienkiewicz went back to Poland and continued the career which has made him so famous.

Mme. Modjeska, who knew but little of the English language and never learned to pronounce it without a strong accent, found a friend in John McCullough, who was the manager of Baldwin's Theatre in San Francisco, when she applied to him for an engagement. Although she had made her first appearance many years before in Poland, had been a noted actress from that time and managed theatres both in Cracow and Warsaw, her fame was not known here. It was lucky for her that she fell in with an actor whose first manager, McCullough, had a rehearsal not only devoted her talent, but did all in his power to further her success. After a season in California she came to New York and acted with the noted company of the American Theatre.

London, acted there in English at the Theatre and met with the same success. She had eventually won here, she played the entire audience and returned from London to New York, where she acted in the American Theatre.

She produced plays by American dramatists ranging from Paul Potter to Clyde Fitch and for years surrounded herself with the best actors of the American stage. Her last appearance in this city was made at a testimonial performance given at the Metropolitan Opera house, when she acted as "Macbeth" and "Maria Stuart" on May 2, 1908. Edmund C. Steadman read an address and Richard Watson Gilder wrote a poem on the occasion of her departure. After the farewell performance she appeared in other cities and then retired to her home in California, near Los Angeles. She made several trips to Europe and was in New York last fall, when she was working on her memoirs and was eager to return to her home to put the finishing touches on them.

Helena Modjeska was her real name, and her father called her after the Greek beauty because of the classic beauty of her head. She was born in 1844 and at the age of 10 married G. S. Modjeska. He died eight years later, leaving her a widow with one son, Polish Modjeska, now a well-known engineer in Chicago. She came here in 1878, and after a visit to the Central went to her home in the West. In February, 1879, she acted her first English play. Two years later she returned to her native land and acted with her countrymen for a year. When she went there again to play, twelve years ago, permission to act was refused to her because of a speech she had made in the London congress at the world's fair. Her father was a musician and her two half brothers were actors but never attained her degree of success.

Potter-Bennett.

MOVIE, N. J., April 8.—Dr. A. M. Potter of East Orange and Miss Ida Bennett, daughter of Mrs. Edwin H. Bennett, were married to-night at the residence of the bride's mother, 71 South Mountain avenue, by the Rev. Dr. Amos H. Bradford of the First Congregational Church. Only a few relatives and friends were present. The bride is Miss Ida Bennett, daughter of Mrs. Potter, who is a daughter of Allen Brown Potter of New York. He is a graduate of the College and Columbia University. He is on the staff of the Orange Memorial Hospital and is instructor in diseases of the eye at the Bellevue Medical College. He is a veteran of the Seventh Regiment and surgeon of the 10th New York Cavalry. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Potter, who is a daughter of Allen Brown Potter of New York. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Potter, who is a daughter of Allen Brown Potter of New York.

Dr. and Mrs. Potter will reside at 28 Halsted street, East Orange.

BACH'S "ST. MATTHEW."

The Oratorio Society Gives a Creditable Performance of the Work.

The final concert of the Oratorio Society's season took place last night at Carnegie Hall. Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" was sung and was heard by a large audience. For this performance Frank Damrosch, conductor of the society, had made careful preparation. He had a choir of boys, trained by E. G. Maquard, for the rippling soprano part in the opening number, and the solo singers were Mrs. Corinne Rider-Kelsey, soprano; Mrs. Homer, contralto; Gervase Elwes, tenor; Claude Cunningham, barytone, and Herbert Witherspoon, bass. For the accompaniment of the recitations of the narrator a piano with harpsichord attachment was used.

General attention to details was noticeable throughout the concert. The orchestra was properly divided into two orchestras and the organ part was treated with discretion. The general spirit of the performance was most reverent. The programme contained a note requesting the audience to applaud only at the end of each part and this request was observed. The programme also stated that the ushers had been instructed not to show people to their seats in the course of the performance of any number. If such instructions were given, no attention was paid to them. The Carnegie Hall ushers are a nobly independent order of functionaries.

The most satisfying feature of last night's performance of the "St. Matthew Passion" was the singing of the chorus. The chorals were beautifully delivered. There were vigor and color in the delivery of such numbers as "Wherefore wilt thou be so wasteful?" The finale of the first part, "Ye lightnings, ye thunders," was given with excellent spirit. The work of the orchestra was less satisfactory. It was in some places decidedly loose and disjointed.

The difficulty of securing soloists to sing the formidably difficult music of this oratorio was never better illustrated than last night. A better array of names would be hard to spread upon a programme, yet the results were altogether disproportionate to the promise. Mr. Elwes, the English tenor, who was imported for this and a previous concert of the Oratorio Society, was in very poor voice and was plainly unable to do himself justice. From his style, however, it might be inferred that at his best he would be only a tolerable narrator of the story as set by Bach.

Mrs. Rider-Kelsey has a good acquaintance with the Bach style, but her voice does not meet the demands of such acting arias as "Grief and Woe." In "Never will my heart refuse thee" she was far more successful. Mr. Witherspoon discharged his duties with artistic skill. Mr. Cunningham sang the words of the Saviour very beautifully throughout the oratorio. He showed admirable management of tone color and his style was both musical and reverent. Miss Janet Spencer was substituted for Mrs. Homer in the last two numbers of the oratorio, as the latter singer had to hasten to the Metropolitan to sing *Erda* in the last act of "Siegfried." Mme. Homer did not appear to advantage as a Bach singer.

NEWS OF PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

The Clara Morris Benefit—Change in the Plans for the Plaza.

For the Clara Morris testimonial at the New York Theatre on Friday, April 9, at 1 P. M., the Twelfth Night Club has arranged a programme which includes the famous second act of "Lady Windermere's Fan," to be enacted by Virginia Harned, Frances Starr, Julia Dean, Nellie Thorne, Dorothy Tennant, E. M. Holland, Edwin Arden, William Courtenay, Lawrence D'Orsay, Robert Warwick, Edgar Norton and others; a drama in one act entitled "His Own," with Edmund Breese; a splendid dramatic sketch in one act entitled "Employers' Bureau," to be performed by the women of the Twelfth Night Club, and Miss Grace George, assisted by Frank Worthington and others, will play the chief scenes from "Discards." The other artists to appear are David Bispham, Wilton Lackaye, Chauncey Olcott, Mabel Barrison, Amelia Summerville and Ada Wynne. Clara Morris will herself appear in a brief scene from "Macbeth," thus making this testimonial her farewell appearance.

The Shuberts announce that they have cancelled the engagement of Miss Bertha Galland at the New Plaza Theatre arranged for next week. The reason for this is that Mr. Blitz has been unable to deliver the theatre at this time and is unable to fulfil his side of the contract for the present booking of Shubert English productions at that house.

Eddie Foy is the latest capture by William Morris, Inc., of the independent vaudeville movement. Mr. Foy opens at the Lincoln Square Theatre, New York, on May 3 and will present "Hamlet by Freight," a new specialty with special scenic settings and a number of mechanical effects.

Henry B. Harris has signed contracts with Paul Dickey and Charles W. Goddard for the producing rights of their play "The Ghost Breaker," which is to have a production in New York early in the coming season.

Thompson Buchanan, the newspaper man who wrote "A Woman's Way," is to turn actor. William A. Brady, who gave Mr. Buchanan his first opportunity as a dramatist, is also to stand sponsor for the young man's appearance as "An Englishman from Mississippi" for the Chicago company which opens at the Grand Opera House in that city April 19.

"Siegfried" at the Metropolitan.

The Metropolitan Opera House was filled last night when the "Ring" performances were continued with "Siegfried." Carl Burrian was to have appeared as the hero, but owing to the death of his wife from promine poisoning his place was taken by George Anthes, who had already sung Siegfried in "Die Walkure." Mr. Anthes sang his music only tolerably, but his action was generally picturesque and appropriate. The other members of the cast were the same as at the previous performance, except that Mme. Gadski was the Brünnhilde.

Dink Gilly to Sing at the Metropolitan.

Two important additions have been made to the list of barytones engaged by the Metropolitan Opera Company for next season. Contracts have been signed with Dink Gilly, first barytone of the Grand Opera in Paris, and John Forsell, first barytone of the Royal Opera in Stockholm.

Police Prevent Whirlwind A. C. Fight.

The police prevented a lightweight bout between Eddie Kelly of Buffalo and Patsy Kilian of Newark at the Whirlwind Athletic Club, 116th street and Lenox avenue, last night. Two policemen appeared at the clubhouse about 6 o'clock and the notice from the police department that the club couldn't hold any fights until it had made alterations in its quarters. The club has been holding regular sessions for a year. The club had an injunction against ordinary police interference.

CLOTHES AND THE BALLOT

FROCKS VIE WITH ARGUMENT AT COLONY CLUB MEETING.

Mrs. Mackay's Equal Franchise League Learns From Miss Arnold How Much Interest Is Taken in the Movement—Mrs. Lydig's Gown and Hat Attract.

The meeting last night at the Colony Club under the auspices of the Equal Franchise Society was the most brilliant suffrage function of the season. In order to prove to each other, the men and any antis who chanced to be present, that participation in politics would not deprive them of feminine lure the members arrayed themselves in their most fascinating frocks.

The mere outsiders gaped with admiration as Mrs. Clarence Mackay, president of the league, rose to introduce Miss Ethel Arnold, the chief speaker of the occasion, and they had an opportunity to observe the sweep of her blue satin Directoire, heavily embroidered in gold.

Miss Arnold wore a low necked princess frock of black lace with a fichu of white Spanish lace caught together with a cluster of lilies of the valley. Mrs. Pearce Bailey, the second speaker, was resplendent in green satin with a court train. It was apparently almost impossible for some of those who hadn't been asked to sit up front to give their undivided attention to the discussion of the rights of woman because of their yearning to take in the details of Mrs. Philip Lydig's costume, which several said would have made any one else look like a perfect fright.

Her frock of heavy white lace was built on the strictest lines possible of the dressmaker's art, and her big black skirt had had less trimming on it than any other piece of material in the room. She wore no ornaments except a necklace of pearls.

"How comfortable that hat must be!" said a woman whose eyes peered out from beneath a lavender "peach basket" covered with orchids and white lilies.

Meanwhile Miss Arnold was telling the Equal Franchise League and several of their husbands and Miss Caroline Lesow and some of the College Equal Suffragists and Mrs. Frederick Nathan and other "Consumers" and Mrs. Henry Lydig and a representation from the William Lloyd Garrison Equal Rights Association and Miss Mary Garrett Hay, president of the New York Equal Suffrage League, not to speak of Mrs. Gilbert Jones and the son of Mrs. Gilbert Jones, and Mrs. Julian Heath and other members of the League for the Civic Education of Women, what she thought of the suffrage question in America.

She confessed that the impression she now had after four months residence in the country was quite different from the one she had had, however, when she had been in England. She had supposed, she said, that the position of women in America was so altogether delightful that they did not have the slightest interest in voting. She had, however, come to the conclusion that although a large proportion of American women had inalienable privileges and did not want the vote they needed it as much as the men, and ought to try to get it for the sake of their less fortunate sisters.

"Men," said Miss Arnold, "often assume that when women wanted the vote they would get it. They come to me and tell me that if I could prove to them that the votes of women would benefit the community they would be perfectly willing to lend their support to the suffrage movement. I always replied that I was not called upon to prove any such thing. Women certainly have a right to demand the vote on the ground that it will benefit themselves. It is generally admitted by all those who are best fitted to speak on the subject that the working woman would be greatly benefited by the vote, and if that is the case the rest of the women should need no other argument to make them enlist in the struggle for franchise."

In conclusion Miss Arnold advised the women not to bother about municipal suffrage for thirty years, she said, "and we have proved that we can accomplish good thereby. It isn't necessary for you to go all over that ground again. I think that one of the best things you can do right now is to enlist the aid of the great organization of women's clubs. After you have convinced the women, I think you task with the men will be comparatively easy. There is not any such hidebound prejudice against it among your countrymen as exists among mine."

Opera News From Republics South of U. S.

The Panama Railroad steamship Panama, which usually sails directly from Cristobal, in the Canal Zone, to this port, went out of her way a bit on the trip she finished here yesterday to land at Havana a Spanish opera company of forty-eight persons. The singers reported to Capt. Corning of the Panama that they had entertained audiences all over South America and had made an artistic and financial hit. They felt pretty certain that they would score in Cuba, and after they had toured the island they will go to Mexico by a Ward liner that touches at Havana on her way to Progreso and Vera Cruz.

The Seagoers.

Arrivals by the Cunarder Caronia, which was forced to anchor down the bay on Wednesday night because of the gale.

J. S. Phipps, who has been hunting in England and brought home a lot of mounted birds, had killed W. Bruce, Mrs. A. G. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur D. Dunn, H. B. Bowie and Francis T. Dwyer.

Aboard the North German Lloyd liner Princess Irene, from the Mediterranean, Dudley B. Child, Samuel D. Parham, Rev. R. W. Post, James Russell Harris, Bartlett Tripp, Paul von Deul and Abbott H. Thayer.

The fire started in the offices of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, 110 Broadway, which caused much agitation in official circles.

Brooklyn traffic was held up for three-quarters of an hour last night while the firemen with high pressure fought flames on the fourth floor rear of 103 Broadway. The building is next to the branch office building of the Mutual Life Insurance Company at Broadway and Walker street, which the flames entered and damaged a little.

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SPECIAL MESSENGER

When love seemed to have played a sorry trick on this young girl, she went forth to serve her country's need as secret agent. This is the story of her courage, her resourcefulness, her unwavering determination when torn between love of the Union and sympathy for brave foes entrapped by her wiles—how she steered a steady, brave course through all these trials, never forgetting her first love, yet never shutting her heart to the appeal of humanity or of romance—the reward that fate, not always too unkind, had in store for her steadfast constancy.

ROBERT W. CHAMBERS

Colored inlay, by Harrison Fisher, on cover. Eight full-page, half-tone illustrations from paintings by George Gibbs. Numerous pen-and-ink sketches by I. W. Taber.

D. APPLETON & COMPANY, Publishers, NEW YORK

PRESIDENT TO THE G. A. R.

He Says That Veterans Will Receive Preference in Appointments.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—To a delegation of G. A. R. members who called on him at the White House to-day President Taft declared his policy in regard to the treatment of civil war veterans who are employed in the service of the Government. The President said that these veterans would not only receive preference in appointment to positions in the classified civil service, but they would be retained in the service until absolutely incapacitated, mentally or physically, for the performance of their duties.

In the delegation who called on the President were Henry M. Nevius, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic; J. K. Hammond, Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief; Edwin H. Holbrook, Commander of the Department of the Potomac, and several others.

The primary object of the visit to the White House was to invite the President to attend the unveiling of the Stephenson Memorial Monument in Washington on July 3. The President promised to attend and then made his declaration in regard to the treatment of veterans.

MONEY FOR JERSEY SCHOOLS.

Gov. Fort Signs Three Bills Expected to Avoid \$750,000 Treasury Deficit.

TRENTON, N. J., April 8.—After being held under call for more than three hours to-day the three Senate measures relating to the adjustment and distribution of school money by the State were passed by the House. All the measures were assailed by the Democratic minority, but the organization Republicans stood true to their caucus pledges and the three bills were signed by Gov. Fort to-night.

The first provided for the distribution of the school money on April 15 and June 15 of \$2,240,000 in equal instalments. This money is obtained from the taxation of the right of way or so-called "main stem" of railroads.

The second measure provides for the diversion to the State fund of \$302,000 in railroad taxes which has been in litigation. The justification for turning this money into the general fund is that the school have been borrowers from the State fund.

The third provided that the expense of maintenance of the State Normal School and other educational institutions shall be charged to the school fund instead of the general fund.

These legislative acts, it is believed, will relieve the State treasury from the threatened deficit of \$750,000, which has caused much agitation in official circles.

FIRE AT 103 BROADWAY.

Jumps Into Mutual Life Branch and Does a Little Damage.

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FISHER LIKED THIS SALOON.

He Robbed It Once a Week and Was Thankful Until Trapped.

"Give a beggar a free horse and he'll ride it to death," said Leonard Fisher to Magistrate Kernochan when he pleaded guilty in the Tombs court yesterday of having robbed Michael Dzadick's saloon at 14 Greenwich street. Fisher said this was the fourth time in a month that he had robbed Dzadick's place.

"Did you think you had title to the saloon by prescription?" asked the Magistrate.

Fisher, who is of German birth, and just out of Elmira, said that on one occasion "while a big fat cop stood in the front door" he entered the place, filled up on beer, whiskey and sandwiches, helped himself to the change in the register and departed through the side door, taking Dzadick's revolver, which proved good collateral. Then he wrote a note of appreciation to the Leonard street police station.

Another time, he said, he raided all the costumebles in the saloon, and along with some money took a check for an interesting amount. The check he returned to the police with a polite note expressing the best of wishes for the policeman on post.

Fisher got hungry again on Wednesday night, he says, and force of habit led him to Dzadick's. He entered the saloon by way of a dumbwaiter, but Frank Murphy, who lives in the house, saw him, got a policeman, and that was the last of the German invasion.

SADIE'S AN ARTFUL DODGER.

Negress Accused of \$10,000 Theft Caught at Last on a Fire Escape.

Sadie Boyd, a negress suspected of having stolen \$3,000 worth of linen and silverware from the house of Mrs. Julia Schmidt, 615 Prospect avenue, The Bronx, was arrested while trying to get away by climbing down the fire escape at 414 West Thirty-sixth street last night.

In her room were found two trunks full of Mrs. Schmidt's stuff and a good deal of other plunder. The police say that it may amount to \$10,000 when all the pawn tickets are run down.

Sadie was a cleaning woman in Mrs. Schmidt's house for a week last January and made the best of her time. She moved nine times in dodging the police.

STRICKEN ON THE BRIDGE.

Henry McKay of Brooklyn, Retired Broker, Dies of Heart Disease.

Henry McKay, a retired broker, who lived at 279 Lincoln Road, Flatbush, was attacked by heart disease on the promenade of Brooklyn Bridge last night and died in the Hudson street hospital. He was accompanied by his son, Henry McKay, Jr., who said that about a week ago his father had been taken ill in the street and had been treated at the Hudson street hospital. The next day he left the hospital against the advice of the surgeons.

Yesterday he and his son, after showing friends through the city, decided to walk to Brooklyn. Mr. McKay is survived by his wife, a daughter, Grace, and the son

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